

## WYMONDHAM TOWN COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 1<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER 2013 in the FAIRLAND HALL at 7.30pm.

Councillors present:

JRW Andrews	J H Turner	D Fernee
M Heard	A Taylor	C Buckton
DM Hockaday	M Elias	M Gibbins
CA Longhurst	A Gardiner	RJ Savage
S Elliott		

Members of the public: 21  
District Council: Cllr. Hornby  
County/ District Council: Cllr Mooney  
The Town Mayor, Cllr. D Fernee presiding

159/13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllrs. Ward & Foulger

160/13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- Cllr. Heard – Prejudicial interest in matters pertaining to King’s Head Meadow as he lives adjacent to the site.
- Cllr. Hockaday – Prejudicial interest in respect of any items relating to Wymondham Tennis Club and a Personal interest in any item relating to Ketts Park.

161/13 RESIDENTS QUESTIONS

- Mr Moss asked why Cllr. Gardiner’s report to the last Council meeting was not attached to the minutes nor on the Council website. Clerk advised that this report was personal to Cllr. Gardiner and had not been approved by the King’s Head Meadow Working Group (KHMTWG) and was therefore not a Council report.
- Mr Ward – Agenda item 13. Asked if all KHTWG members, particularly Cllrs. Fernee & Gibbins were fully committed to the King’s Head Meadow (KHM) Proposal as nothing had happened. Both Councillors affirmed their commitment.
- Cllr. Hornby – LE 33/13 – KHM – People of Wymondham wanted KHM to be kept as open space. Concerns fencing it in would create ‘Berlin Wall’ and would cause anti-social behaviour problems and have a negative effect, Asked:
  - Have Council consulted residents
  - Had Council looked at alternatives (eg CCTV)
  - Who would pay.

Cllr. Taylor responded that the Council wished to obtain quotes to progress elements of the overall proposal. Cllr. Gardiner commented that there was no point in fencing if the whole proposal didn’t go forward. Council to take note of concerns.

- Mr Hawkins – agenda item 14 – asked Cllr. Fernee to confirm that covenants would be included in the purchase of the small piece of land owned by Saffron at KHM. Cllr. Fernee replied that this would be discussed by all Councillors. Cllr. Gardiner added that WAW were formed to safeguard the meadow.

- Cllr. Mooney

Cllr. Mooney commented that everyone was committed to keeping King's Head Meadow as an open space and that the elements of the proposal put forward on the 14<sup>th</sup> March 2013 were to come back to Council for further discussion and approval. He then asked:

- Q1
- My question relates to minute 143/13 on paper B. "Mr Travis prompted by a report that he had received from Mr Gardiner asked if the Town council were going to report the Football Club to the Police.
- The minutes of the meeting are a public document and after reading that minute members of the public might conclude that fraud was taking place at the football club.
- Could I ask the Mayor to state whether or not this very serious allegation is the official view of the town council?
- If it is not the official view of the council could you consider writing to the football club to clarify the claims made in that minute?

*Cllr. Fernee responded that these are not the view of the Council. Cllr. Gardiner advised that financial information had been forwarded to WFCF accountants and it was anticipated formal Accounts would be produced shortly.*

- Q2
- Also under item 143/13 third bullet point "Is the proposal to twin Wymondham with Boston in the USA still going ahead. Is Dr Gibson still involved and if so what is his involvement and could you confirm whether or not any tax payer's money will be spent on this project.

*Cllr. Gardiner advised that he had today received an email from Dr Gibson He would progress this when he had time. No tax payers money had been spent so far.*

- Q3
- Under item 12 on the agenda I would like to ask a question on this but in the absence of a paper I don't really understand the meaning behind this item. Could I ask Cllr Elias to explain to us what this item is all about?

*Cllr. Elias advised that this would become clear when the item was discussed.*

- Q4
- Under item LE33/13
- I would like to ask Cllr Taylor if the specification for the proposed play equipment such as the number of pieces you are planning to purchase and the type of equipment required been agreed to by WTC. Also has the overall budget for this project and the location of where the items might be installed been agreed by the town council.

*Cllr. Taylor advised that new play equipment will enhance the current play area on King's Head Meadow. Initial designs were being worked on and a further quote was due at the end of October. The working group would then look at the designs and then seek grants.*

My own view on this is that I would be happy to see some additional pieces of equipment located in the meadow but the main play equipment should be located in Ketts Park.

- 162/13 MINUTES OF MEETING Upon the proposition of Cllr. Savage and seconded by Cllr. Longhurst the minutes of the meeting held on 6th August 2013 were approved as a correct record subject to the following amendments
- 150/13 King's Head Meadow Trust Working Group
    - Line 6 – 'Majority' replaced with 'significant number'
    - Following added – 'Cllr. Gibbins commented that he was not aware of any negotiations that had taken place with the football club since 1990 in respect of the original lease.'
- 163/13 MATTERS ARISING None
- 164/13 FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE the draft minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2013 were presented by the Chairman and noted. Cllr. Heard commented that "Whilst recognising that the Finance and L&E minutes are For Note and not accuracy - I wish to point out in relation to
- F29/13 I requested involvement in the revision of the Finance Regulations
- 165/13 LEISURE & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE the draft minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2013 were presented by the Chairman and noted subject to
- Cllr. Heard - LE33/13 I requested to be advised when the list of basic council office requirements were to be presented to the Premises Working Group and that all Councillors be advised of this meeting"
- 166/13 SUNDRY CREDITORS On the proposition of Cllr. Savage and seconded by Cllr. Heard it was resolved to pay accounts for August, as per the submitted list to the sum of £14,341.05
- In compliance with Financial Regulations, the clerk tabled a list of salaries paid from the wages account to the sum of £8,916.61.
- 167/13 SUNDRY CREDITORS On the proposition of Cllr. Elias and seconded by Cllr. Savage it was resolved to pay accounts for September, as per the submitted list to the sum of £33,828.19
- In compliance with Financial Regulations, the clerk tabled a list of salaries paid from the wages account to the sum of £8,554.81
- 168/13 CORRESPONDENCE received was considered and the actions proposed are recorded separately as an appendix to these minutes.
- 169/13 MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS Noted.

170/13 PROPOSAL

"To seek clarification of certain aspects of Supermarket Development of the Kings Head Meadow in light of new evidence"

Proposer : Cllr. Gardiner

Secunder: Cllr. Elias

Cllr. Gardiner apologized that his report at the last Council meeting had not been approved by the King's Head Meadow Trust Working Group (KHMTWG). He then explained that he had read the Council minutes and the documentation re the ASDA proposal for King's Head Meadow (KHM) and that 3 private meetings had taken place between himself, Cllr. Mooney and Mr P Hawkins and he was convinced that Cllr. Mooney knew nothing. He had been in email correspondence with Paul Kelly (Asda) and read out part of a reply received. He then proceeded to refer to various emails and correspondence that he felt required answers/clarification. It was agreed that he should place his concerns in writing so that formal responses could be given.

There then followed a discussion regarding the present proposals for KHM during which the following was indicative of comments made:

- Cllr. Elliott – There is no time line on proposals noting key milestones. There is a need to be more visible and can the lease with Wymondham Town Football Club (WTFC) be terminated.
- Cllr. Savage asked if costings had been prepared. Cllr. Gardiner responded that it had not been possible to do costings.
- Cllr. Fernee commented that Council were in a 'Catch 22' position as nothing can be done until 2015 when the present lease expires.
- Cllr. Gibbins re-iterated that he had been committed to the project and had followed advice given by the Councils Solicitors Fosters in respect of the lease. However as his commitment had been questioned he now felt he wished to resign from the working group.
- Cllr. Savage commented that the working group now needs to do a review and report back at the next full Council meeting.
- Cllr. Buckton asked why WTC cannot take legal action against WTFC in respect of the lease.

The discussion concluded by re-affirming that Cllr. Gardiner would submit written questions regarding his concerns and that Cllr. Gibbins was no longer a member of the King's Head Meadow Trust Working Group.

171/13 KING'S HEAD MEADOW TRUST WORKING GROUP Cllr. Gardiner commented that he had nothing further to report and Cllr. Taylor re-iterated that more play equipment quotes were awaited and then the group would be seeking grants and support from local businesses.

- 172/13 LAND - KING'S HEAD MEADOW Cllr. Fernee referred to the Leisure & Environment Committee meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> September and their recommendation that the Council purchases the small piece of land owned by Saffron.  
Cllr. Heard commented are we going to ask Saffron for covenants on the land before he left the room for this agenda item only.  
Cllr. Gardiner agreed that covenants are required.  
Cllr. Savage pointed out that the issue of covenants is not included in the L&E committee recommendation and that the Council would be failing in its duty if we bind future Councils and that legal advice must be sought regarding any conditions of sale.  
After discussion it was agreed that this matter would be deferred to the next meeting in order that further enquires could be made of Saffron and a proper resolution drawn up for debate
- 173/13 NATIONAL EXPRESS Letter regarding Coach Route service 727 updating the Council on the present position was noted.
- 174/13 REMEMBRANCE DAY Details of this year's arrangements were noted.
- 175/13 LIZARD CHARITY It was resolved to re-appoint Cllr. Hockaday for a further 4 year period.
- 176/13 COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP Cllr. Fernee outlined the work undertaken by the group which is contained in Paper K attached to the agenda. It was resolved that they continue the work noting that a trial Councillors surgery is to be held at North Wymondham Community Centre.
- 177/13 MARKET TOWN INITIATIVE Cllr Fernee outlined the work undertaken to date in accordance with the report attached to these minutes.
- 178/13 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT / COUNTY COUNCILLORS
- Norfolk County Council - Cllr. Mooney
    - Thickthorn Roundabout to be resurfaced in January 2014
  - South Norfolk Council – Cllr. Savage
    - Chapel Lane planning appeal to start on 15.10.13.
- 179/12 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES
- Cllr. Longhurst – North Wymondham Community Centre – Quiz & Chips 12.10.13
  - Cllrs Heard & Gardiner had attended the Ketts Park Management Committee AGM.
- 180/12 HEALTH & SAFETY Nothing to Report
- 181/12 QUESTIONS (S/O 8) None received.

*[The meeting closed at 21.08 pm]*

DATED this .....day of .....2013

SIGNED .....(Chairman)

## WYMONDHAM TOWN COUNCIL

### MEETING 6<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2013

#### CORRESPONDENCE

##### Action

1. Norfolk Association Local Councils – Green Burial Seminar – Colney Wood - 17.10.13 (10.00am-1.00pm). **Noted**
2. Norfolk Association Local Councils – Stone Curlew Soiree – 8.10.13 – Thetford 7.00pm – 9.00pm. **Noted**

##### Information

1. Norfolk Association Local Councils – Norfolk Link newsletter. **Noted**
2. Norfolk County Council – Better Broadband newsletter. **Noted**
3. Norfolk Parish Training Partnership - Initial Training for Clerks & Councillors. **Noted**
4. Norfolk Police – Notification of new Local Policing Commander – Inspector Tony Abigail. **Noted**
5. Norfolk County Council consultation on the 2014/15 budget and savings proposals for 2014/17 **Noted**

##### Mayor's Engagements

1. Black & White Cafe – opening – 10.8.13 **Noted**
2. Mayor of Dereham Civic Service – 1.9.13 **Noted**
3. Norfolk County Council – Battle of Britain Parade and Service – 9.9.13 **Noted**
4. Wymondham Heritage Museum – Business Exhibition – 11.9.13 **Noted**
5. Heritage Open Day Launch – 11.9.13 **Noted**
6. Wymondham Flower Club – Open Meeting – 12.9.13 **Noted**
7. Wymondham Dementia Society – Dementia Friendly Community Project Launch – 12.9.13 **Noted**
8. Thetford Town Council – Battle of Britain Service – 15.9.13 **Noted**
9. Mayor of Wymondham Civic Service – 15.9.13 **Noted**
10. Norfolk Scout Council – AGM – 16.9.13 **Noted**
11. Chairman South Norfolk Council Civic Reception – 20.9.13 **Noted**